GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2997
ANSWERED ON:05.09.2007
SALE OF COAL THROUGH BLACK MARKETING
Mahato Shri Narahari

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the objective of allocating coal to the National Consumer Cooperative Federation (NCCF);

(b) the details of the quantum of coal lifted by the NCCF and sold to the consumers during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) the rate at which coal was given to the NCCF and the rate at which the same was sold by them;

(d) whether any complaints have been received regarding sale of coal through black marketing;

(e) if so, whether these complaints have been investigated;

(f) if so, the outcome thereof;

(g) the steps taken by the Government to check black marketing of coal;

(h) whether the purpose of allocating coal to the NCCF has been achieved; and

(i) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a): National Co-operative Consumers' Federation of India Limited (NCCF), a multi state cooperative society, was allocated coal, on the recommendation of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, with the objective of distributing coal to small and tiny consumers who do not have linkage or sponsorship and find it difficult to approach directly coal companies to meet their requirements of coal.

(b): Order for allocation of coal to NCCF was issued in December 2004, for a quantity of 2 million tonnes per annum. However, the actual quantity of coal lifted by NCCF is as under:-

Year	Quantity despatched by CIL
2004-05	0.89 lakh tonnes
2005-06	4.30 lakh tonnes
2006-07	1.49 lakh tonnes
2007-08 (Upto July,2007)	0.31 lakh tonnes

(c): NCCF is being supplied coal at 120% of the notified price. NCCF has been advised to distribute coal to small and tiny consumers across the country at a price not exceeding 5% over and above the base price charged by the coal companies. Transportation charges and duties/levies shall be extra.

(d) to (i): Complaints were received alleging irregularities in sale of coal by NCCF. Chief Vigilance Officer, CIL was instructed to investigate those complaints. In his report, he suggested certain measures to improve the distribution network system of NCCF. Based on his report, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution was requested to take follow up action. Further, as reported by Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, a case pertaining to alleged diversion of coal is being investigated by CBI(ACB), Kolkata.

CIL has been directed to strictly monitor supply of coal to prevent any misuse of coal.

Coal India Limited has put in place a "Watchdog mechanism" to ensure that there are no irregularities in sale of coal by NCCF.

This arrangement has been made to enable tiny consumers to access coal. This objective is being achieved to the extent of coal so far supplied by the NCCF to the intended consumers.